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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/553,993
Filing Date	April 20, 2000
First Named Inventor	GUNDERSON
Group Art Unit	1655
Examiner Name	B. FORMAN
Attorney Docket Number	A-69235/RMS/DCF

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This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. ☐ Previously submitted

i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☒ Petition for Extension of Time (3 Month)

ii. ☒ Response to Office Action

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iii. ☒ Declaration Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.132

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iv. ☒ Attachments A - C

v. ☒ Supplemental IDS and Statement of Relatedness

vi. ☒ PTO Form 1449 and 11 References

vii. ☒ Return Postcard

2. Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 06-1300 (order no. A-69235/RFT/RMS/RMK)

i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)

ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. Other : _____

b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 830.00 is enclosed (\$460. - Three Month Extension and \$370. - Filing Fee)

c. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed

d. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print Type)	Robin M. Silva	Registration No. 38,304 (Attorney/Agent)	
Signature	<i>David C. Smith</i> Filed under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.34(a)	Date: May 20, 2002	

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence, including listed enclosures, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231: May 13, 2002.

Name (Print Type)	Mary McFarland	Date	May 20, 2002
Signature	<i>Mary McFarland</i>		